

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 105-116 have been added. Claims 99-104 have been canceled without prejudice.

The Examiner has made various rejections of applicants' claims 54-64 and 66-98 under 35 USC § 103(a) as unpatentable based on the Shaffer, et al. (US 6,092,114) patent taken with the Suzuki, et al. (US 5,862,347) patent and the Kucmerowski (US 2001/0013871) reference. Applicants have canceled claims 99-104, thereby rendering the Examiner's rejections moot. Moreover, to the extent the Examiner believes the rejections are applicable to newly added claims 105-116, they are respectfully traversed.

Applicants' added independent claim 105 recites an information providing apparatus comprising: a reception unit adapted to receive electronic mail data; a determination unit adapted to determine whether a document file is attached to electronic mail data received by said reception unit; a generation unit adapted to, when said determination unit determines that a document file is attached, generate text string data representing an abstract of a document indicated by the document file; a first sending unit adapted to send the document file attached to the electronic mail data received by said reception unit to a Web server; and a second sending unit adapted to send the abstract generated by said generation unit to a communication terminal when said first sending unit sends the document file. Applicants' independent method claim 110 recites similar features. Such constructions are not taught or suggested by the cited art of record.

More particularly, the Shaffer, et al. patent merely teaches a server which checks a format of a file attached to a message to determine whether a client can display the message.

If the client cannot display the message, the server converts the file format and sends the converted message to the client.

The Suzuki, et al. patent, on the other hand, teaches an information distributor or server, e.g., the world wide web, which services information requests from a requesting source or client. In particular, as stated in the patent “only a partial information to be displayed first at the client end is transmitted in [the] form of a non-compression from the server to the client, and the remaining partial information is transmitted in the form of a compression from the server to the client.” The partial information displayed depends on the size of the client’s display, i.e., the number of characters which can be displayed on the display window, which is transmitted along with the information request.

Finally, the Kucmerowski reference discloses a system in which messages are to be displayed on a display. If the message length is longer than the length of the display, a part of the message starting with the first character is displayed first and the last character displayed is displayed with an attribute indicating the message is longer than the display. The display can then be cleared and the truncated part of the message displayed. If the truncated part of the message is longer than the display the procedure is repeated for the truncated part of the message.

Thus, the aforesaid references, neither individually, nor in combination, teach or suggest the combination of a generation unit adapted to, when a determination unit determines that a document file is attached to electronic mail data, generate text string data representing an abstract of a document indicated by the document file, a first sending unit adapted to send the document file attached to the electronic mail data received by said reception unit to a Web

server, and a second sending unit adapted to send the abstract generated by said generation unit to a communication terminal when said first sending unit sends the document file.

As previously mentioned, the Shaffer, et al. patent merely teaches format conversion of a file by a server and then transmission of the reformatted file. There is thus nothing taught or suggested in the reference which equates to a first unit adapted to send a document file attached to an electronic mail to a Web server and a second unit adapted to send text string data representing an abstract of the document file to a communication terminal when the first sending unit sends the document file.

Moreover, while the Suzuki, et al. patent sends partial information from a web system to a client based on display size and the Kucmerowski reference provides an indication in displayed data that the data is longer than the display, again these teachings do not teach or suggest a first unit adapted to send a document file attached to an electronic mail to a Web server and a second unit adapted to send text string data representing an abstract of the document file to a communication terminal when the first sending unit sends the document file.

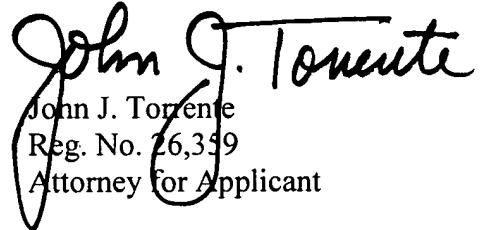
Finally, even assuming, arguendo, that the teachings of the references could be combined they still would not result in applicants' claimed invention. In particular, the combined teachings would not result in a first unit adapted to send a document file attached to an electronic mail to a Web server and a second unit adapted to send text string data representing an abstract of the document file to a communication terminal when the first sending unit sends the document file.

Applicants' independent claims 105 and 116, and their respective dependent claims, all of which recite these features thus patentably distinguish over the Shaffer, et al., Suzuki, et al. and Kucmerowski references.

In view of the above, it is submitted that applicants' claims patentably distinguish over the cited art of record. Accordingly, reconsideration of the claims is respectfully requested.

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Respectfully submitted,


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